

# Highlights (continued)

*The FY 2000 Legislative  
Branch Appropriations  
Act included statutory  
improvements for  
GPO's funding.*

Binding Appropriation declined relative to FY 1999, the Salaries and Expenses Appropriations increased to cover mandatory cost increases for employee pay and supplies and materials.

The FY 2000 Legislative Branch Appropriations Act included three statutory improvements for GPO's funding. GPO's traditional ceiling on full-time equivalent (FTE) employment included language authorizing the Public Printer to request a different staffing level subject to the approval of the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. This gives the Public Printer the flexibility to work with Congress to increase the necessary resources if GPO's workload exceeds expectations.

The approved Act contained language increasing the limit on spending for travel under the Salaries and Expenses Appropriation. These funds cover travel by depository library inspectors to libraries around the Nation, by GPO staff to attend various library association conferences and meetings and to provide training in the use of **GPO Access**, and travel of members of the Depository Library Council to Council meetings to serve in an advisory capacity to the Public Printer.

The legislation also included language increasing GPO's small purchase authority, which is set according to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (under 41 U.S.C 5), from \$25,000 to \$100,000. GPO now has the same small purchase threshold for buying goods and services that is enjoyed by most other Federal agencies, which are using it to promote efficiency and economy in contracting and to avoid unnecessary burdens for both agencies and contractors.

## YEAR 2000 READINESS ACTIVITY

GPO made significant progress toward achieving Y2K compliance for the agency during 1999. As of September 30, 1999, remediation, testing, and implementation was successfully completed for 88 percent of GPO's mission critical systems.

Year 2000 policy guidance issued during the fiscal year included the "Y2K Business Continuity and Contingency Plan," "Y2K Day 1 Planning Guide," and a memorandum establishing a GPO-wide change moratorium on all system development and enhancement activities that were not required to meet the Year 2000 deadline. GPO intensified efforts for end-to-end testing of information systems



with all of its data exchange partners. This testing was completed during the first quarter of fiscal year 2000. GPO actively participated with the House of Representatives' Business Continuity and Contingency Planning (BCCP) working group and the Legislative Branch Working Group for joint development of contingency plans for the infrastructure systems such as utilities and communications. During the year, GPO responded to over 1,000 outside inquiries concerning its Y2K readiness efforts.

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